[27th February 1934

Appendix.

[Vide answer to question No. 711 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th February 1934, page 339 supra.]

Instructions issued by the Board of Revenue.

The Board resolves to issue the following instructions for the guidance of Collectors and other district revenue officers in the preparation, scrutiny and sanction of the estimates for the repairs and improvements to irrigation works.

2. When scrutinizing any estimates for improvements to, or the repair of minor irrigation works, Collectors should consider the advisability of demanding a contribution from the ryots concerned towards the cost of those improvements or repairs and decide whether any portion of the cost of some or all the items of the contemplated works should be recovered from the ayacutdars. The following examples of cases that call for a contribution are commended to the notice of Collectors:—

- (i) When it is proposed to repair a sluice which does not drain the tank properly, so that the ryots have to bale water from the bed into the sluice when supplies are low and when the re-arrangement of the sluice will save them the trouble.
- (ii) When an earthbund is to be faced with a stone revetment, so that the labour under kudimaramat on maintaining the bund in good order is diminished and the danger of a breach is insured against.
- (iii) When masonry or other quasi-permanent works are proposed for training water into a river channel in place of korambus and an open head.
- (iv) When the cost of repairing a tank is high in proportion to the revenue derived from it and when the ryots concerned are desirous of having the repairs done as a part-contribution work.

With a view to enabling Collectors to fix the amount of contribution, full particulars should be given in a separate paragraph in the report accompanying every estimate. It should also be clearly stated whether the ayacutdars or other interested parties are willing to bear a portion of the cost and, if so, how much. Sanction should be accorded to the estimate after due consideration of this question. After the Collector has fixed the amount of contribution, the ayacutdars should be called upon to deposit the amount in advance or to execute an agreement that they would pay it within a reasonable time or in such instalments as may be fixed by the Collector. The work should be taken up for execution only after the full contribution is collected.

3. When Collectors scrutinize estimates received from the Public Works Department with reference to the instructions laid down in Board's Standing Order No. 88-A, they should follow the procedure prescribed in the preceding paragraph and should, where such a step is called for, intimate to that department that the work should not be carried out until the ayacutdars deposit the amount fixed as contribution.